

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE
BARREN COUNTY CLERK**

For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

**Donna Bouvier
Certified Public Accountant**

**Member: American Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Kentucky Society of Certified Public Accountants**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE BARREN COUNTY CLERK

**For The Year Ended
December 31, 2007**

I have completed the Barren County Clerk's audit for the year ended December 31, 2007. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting.

Financial Condition:

Excess fees increased by \$226,821 from the prior year, resulting in excess fees of \$1,089,191 as of December 31, 2007. Revenues increased by \$523,979 from the prior year and expenditures increased by \$297,158.

Deposits:

The Clerk's deposits were insured and collateralized by bank securities.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT	1
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES – REGULATORY BASIS	3
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT	6
REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH <u>GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS</u>	10

**Donna Bouvier
Certified Public Accountant
P O Box 150
Hartford, KY 42347
270-316-3771**

The Honorable Davie Greer, Barren County Judge/Executive
Honorable Pam Hodges Browning, Barren County Clerk
Members of the Barren County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

I have audited the accompanying statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees - regulatory basis of the County Clerk of Barren County, Kentucky, for the year ended December 31, 2007. This financial statement is the responsibility of the County Clerk. My responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for County Fee Officials issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

As described in Note 1, the County Clerk's office prepares the financial statement on a regulatory basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In my opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly in all material respects, the revenues, expenditures, and excess fees of the County Clerk for the year ended December 31, 2007, in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, I have issued a report dated May 2, 2008, on my consideration of the Barren County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting and on my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of my testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of my audit.

The Honorable Davie Greer, Barren County Judge/Executive
Honorable Pam Hodges Browning, Barren County Clerk
Members of the Barren County Fiscal Court

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the County Clerk and Fiscal Court of Barren County, Kentucky and the Commonwealth of Kentucky and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these interested parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bouvier

Donna Bouvier
Certified Public Accountant

May 2, 2008

BARREN COUNTY
PAM HODGES BROWNING, COUNTY CLERK
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES –
REGULATORY BASIS
For The Year Ended December 31, 2007

Revenues

State Fees For Services	\$	15,124
-------------------------	----	--------

Fiscal Court		90,376
--------------	--	--------

Licenses and Taxes:

Motor Vehicle-

Licenses and Transfers	\$	1,477,857
Lien Release Fees		25,496
Usage Tax		4,330,252
Tangible Personal Property Tax		2,945,823

Other

Fish and Game Licenses		4,925
Marriage Licenses		14,236
Housing Authority Fund		56,316
Occupational Licenses		153
Deed Transfer Tax		133,463
Delinquent Taxes		280,625
Miscellaneous		5,284
		9,274,430

Fees Collected for Services:

Recordings-

Deeds, Easements and Contracts		30,956
Real Estate Mortgages		81,509
Chattel Mortgages and Financing Statements		124,973
Wills and Estates		1,796
Liens		10,283
Releases		21,176
All Other Recordings		16,542
		287,235

Charges for Other Services-

Copywork		18,273
Miscellaneous		73
		18,346

Interest Earned		10,294
-----------------	--	--------

Total Revenues		9,695,805
----------------	--	-----------

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statement.

BARREN COUNTY
PAM HODGES BROWNING, COUNTY CLERK
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND EXCESS FEES-REGULATORY BASIS
For The Year Ended December 31, 2007
(Continued)

Expenditures

Payments to State:

Motor Vehicle-

Licenses and Transfers	\$	1,002,891	
Usage Tax		4,200,462	
Tangible Personal Property Tax		1,069,128	\$ 6,272,481

Licenses-

Fish and Game		4,752	
Delinquent Tax		32,733	
Legal Process Tax		45,087	
Housing Authority Fund		56,316	138,888

Payments to Fiscal Court:

Tangible Personal Property Tax		337,788	
Delinquent Tax		34,911	
Deed Transfer Tax		126,790	499,489

Payments to Other Districts:

Tangible Personal Property Tax		1,420,982	
Delinquent Tax		157,348	1,578,330

Payments to Sheriff

2,959

Payments to County Attorney

24,539

Operating Expenditures:

Other Charges-

Postage		29	
Dues		425	
Office Supplies		1,177	1,631

Total Expenditures 8,518,317

Net Revenues 1,177,488

Less: Statutory Maximum	81,277	
Expense Allowance	3,600	
Training Incentive Benefit	3,387	
Taxable Benefit	33	88,297

Excess Fees Due County for 2007 1,089,191

Payments to County Treasurer- Monthly 1,089,191

Balance Due Fiscal Court at Completion of Audit \$ 0

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statement.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BARREN COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 2007

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Fund Accounting

A fee official uses a fund to report on the results of operations. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

A fee official uses a fund for fees to account for activities for which the government desires periodic determination of the excess of revenues over expenditures to facilitate management control, accountability, and compliance with laws.

B. Basis of Accounting

KRS 64.820 directs the fiscal court to collect any amount, including excess fees, due from the County Clerk as determined by the audit. KRS 64.152 requires the County Clerk to settle excess fees with the fiscal court by March 15.

The financial statement has been prepared on a regulatory basis of accounting, which demonstrates compliance with the laws of Kentucky and is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Under this regulatory basis of accounting, revenues and expenditures are generally recognized when cash is received or disbursed with the exception of accrual of the following items (not all-inclusive) at December 31 that may be included in the excess fees calculation:

- Interest receivable
- Collection on accounts due from others for 2007 services
- Reimbursements for 2007 activities
- Payments due other governmental entities for December tax and fee collections and payroll
- Payments due vendors for goods and services provided in 2007

The measurement focus of fee officials is upon excess fees. Remittance of excess fees is due to the County Treasurer in the subsequent year.

BARREN COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
December 31, 2007
(Continued)

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the County Clerk's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

D. Fee Pooling

The Barren County Fiscal Court approved a fee pooling system for the County Clerk. Under the fee pooling system, revenues net of direct expenses of the County Clerk's office are paid to the County Treasurer the subsequent month. Therefore, the county pays expenses of the County Clerk's office.

Note 2: Employees Retirement System

The county officials and employees have elected to participate in the County Employee Retirement System (CERS) pursuant to KRS 78.530 administered by the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Retirement System. This is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that covers all eligible full-time employees and provides for retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members.

Benefit contributions and provisions are established by statute. Nonhazardous covered employees are required to contribute 5.0 percent of their salary to the plan. The county's contribution rate for nonhazardous employees was 13.19 percent for the first six months and 16.17 percent for the last six months of the year.

Benefits fully vest on reaching five years of service for nonhazardous employees. Aspects of benefits for nonhazardous employees include retirement after 27 years of service or age 65.

Historical trend information pertaining to CERS' progress in accumulating sufficient assets to pay benefits when due is presented in the Kentucky Retirement System's annual financial report which is a matter of public record. This report may be obtained by writing the Kentucky Retirement System, 1260 Louisville Road, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601-6124, or by telephone at (502) 564-4646.

BARREN COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
December 31, 2007
(Continued)

Note 3: Deposits

The County Clerk maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480 (1) (d). According to KRS 41.240 (4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the County Clerk and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution. These requirements were met.

Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution's failure, the County Clerk's deposits may not be returned. The County Clerk does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk, but rather follows the requirements of KRS 41.240 (4). As of December 31, 2007, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement.

Note 4: Grant

The County Clerk received a \$36,418 local records grant during calendar year 2005. The bank balance on January 1, 2007 was \$36,945. The account earned \$533 of interest. There were no expenditures during calendar year 2007 and the bank balance as of December 31, 2007, was \$37,478.

REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS
BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Donna Bouvier
Certified Public Accountant
P O Box 150
Hartford, KY 42347
270-316-3771

The Honorable Davie Greer, Barren County Judge/Executive
Honorable Pam Hodges Browning, Barren County Clerk
Members of the Barren County Fiscal Court

**Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On
Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit of Financial Statements
Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards**

I have audited the statement of revenues, expenditures, and excess fees – regulatory basis of the Barren County Clerk for the year ended December 31, 2007, and have issued my report thereon dated May 2, 2008. The County Clerk's financial statement is prepared in accordance with a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing my audit, I considered the Barren County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County Clerk's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with the regulatory basis of accounting such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statement that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statement will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control.

My consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that I consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting
And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An
Audit of Financial Statements Performed In Accordance
With Government Auditing Standards
(Continued)

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Barren County Clerk's financial statement for the year ended December 31, 2007, is free of material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws and regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, Barren County Fiscal Court, and the Department for Local Government and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than the specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bouvier

Donna Bouvier
Certified Public Accountant

May 2, 2008